

Proclamation 6359 of October 17, 1991**Crime Prevention Month, 1991**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America has committed unprecedented energy and resources to the fight against crime—and with promising results. We have strengthened law enforcement, making record increases in the number of Federal prosecutors and agents, and we have significantly increased the capacity of Federal prisons. Through vigorous public education and prevention programs, we have started to reduce the demand for drugs—the companion and source of far too much corruption and violence. At the same time, through stepped-up interdiction efforts, we have disrupted the deadly operations of several major drug cartels. Such intensified efforts to uphold law and order have made a difference: according to victimization surveys cited by the Department of Justice, the percentage of American households affected by crime fell last year to its lowest rate since 1975.

Despite the progress we have made, however, the incidence of crime in the United States is still much too high. More than 22 million households in the United States felt the blow of crime last year, and countless Americans live in fear for their safety. While we can place great confidence in the courage, professionalism, and skill of our law enforcement officials, we also know that government cannot do the job alone—law enforcement officers must have the respect and the support of the people they serve.

Fortunately, many concerned Americans have already taken a stand to help prevent crime and to apprehend its perpetrators. These Americans are keeping watch over their neighborhoods and reporting any suspicious activity to police; they are helping to identify drug dealers and to clean up abandoned lots and other places that seem to attract illicit activity; and they are working to develop rewarding education and recreation programs that can help keep youngsters away from drugs. Such voluntary grass-roots efforts are vital to winning the fight against crime.

Crime Prevention Month underscores the fact that everyone has a role to play in making our streets safe—businesses, schools, religious and voluntary organizations, the media, as well as concerned individuals and families. With that in mind, let us create a new spirit of cooperation and caring in our communities. Let us reinforce, by word, deed, and example, the values that make law and order possible: personal responsibility, respect for others, and the fundamental sense of decency that comes from knowing the difference between right and wrong. Working together, we can build a better, safer America.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 303, has designated October 1991 as "Crime Prevention Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1991 as Crime Prevention

Month. I call on all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6360 of October 18, 1991

National Consumers Week, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

For generations, our Nation's free enterprise system has provided consumers an unparalleled selection of high quality goods and services, as well as ample opportunities for earning, spending, and investing personal income. Now, as more and more countries around the world adopt market-oriented economies, thereby expanding global trade and commerce, consumers stand to benefit from an ever wider array of options.

Increasing competition in the marketplace spurs business and industry to improve both the quality and price of their products and services. This in turn enables consumers to get more out of their buying dollar. At the same time, the demand for greater innovation and productivity helps to create jobs.

The theme for this year's observance of National Consumers Week, "Today's Choices—Tomorrow's Opportunities," underscores the importance of decisions made by individual consumers. What people buy, where, and how often helps to determine the shape of the marketplace, be it at the local or the international level. Here in the United States, we have traditionally relied on the ability of consumers and private industry to balance each other's needs and interests in the marketplace, with government intervening only to ensure fairness and the safety of goods and services. This system provides the flexibility that is essential to economic growth and technological progress.

However, while our options as consumers are virtually unlimited, our resources are not. Every American needs to recognize the importance of savings and investment, and all of us must decide carefully when spending our resources. To be responsible and discerning consumers, we must be knowledgeable about available goods and services. Every American must also be able to apply fundamental literacy skills to the day-to-day challenges of participating in our economy. The skills that one uses to compare products or to balance a checkbook are vital to success, not only in the marketplace, but also in the workplace. Our Nation's parents, educators, business leaders, and public officials share the responsibility for teaching these essential skills.

This year, as we mark the 10th anniversary of National Consumers Week, let us renew our determination to ensure that every American